

This Page Is Inserted by IFW Operations
and is not a part of the Official Record

BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images may include (but are not limited to):

- BLACK BORDERS
- TEXT CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES
- FADED TEXT
- ILLEGIBLE TEXT
- SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES
- COLORED PHOTOS
- BLACK OR VERY BLACK AND WHITE DARK PHOTOS
- GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS

IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.

As rescanning documents *will not* correct images,
please do not report the images to the
Image Problem Mailbox.



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/748,277	12/27/2000	Jae-Lag Ma	8733.363.00	4729

30827 7590 05/02/2003
MCKENNA LONG & ALDRIDGE LLP
1900 K STREET, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20006

EXAMINER

RUDE, TIMOTHY L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2871

DATE MAILED: 05/02/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

AK

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/748,277

Applicant(s)

MA ET AL.

Examiner

Timothy L Rude

Art Unit

2871

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) [X] Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 March 2003.
2a) [] This action is FINAL. 2b) [X] This action is non-final.
3) [] Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) [X] Claim(s) 6-11 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) [] Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) [X] Claim(s) 6-11 is/are rejected.
7) [] Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) [] Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) [] The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) [] The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) [] accepted or b) [] objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
11) [X] The proposed drawing correction filed on 22 January 2003 is: a) [X] approved b) [] disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
12) [] The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) [] Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) [] All b) [] Some * c) [] None of:
1. [] Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. [] Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. [] Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
14) [] Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) [] The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
15) [] Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) [] Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) [] Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) [] Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
4) [] Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____.
5) [] Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) [] Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Claims

1. Claim 6 is amended.

Drawings

2. The proposed drawing correction and/or the proposed substitute sheets of drawings, filed on 22 January 2003 have been approved by Examiner. A proper drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The correction to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country; more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 6-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Dingwall et al (Dingwall) USPAT 5,307,188.

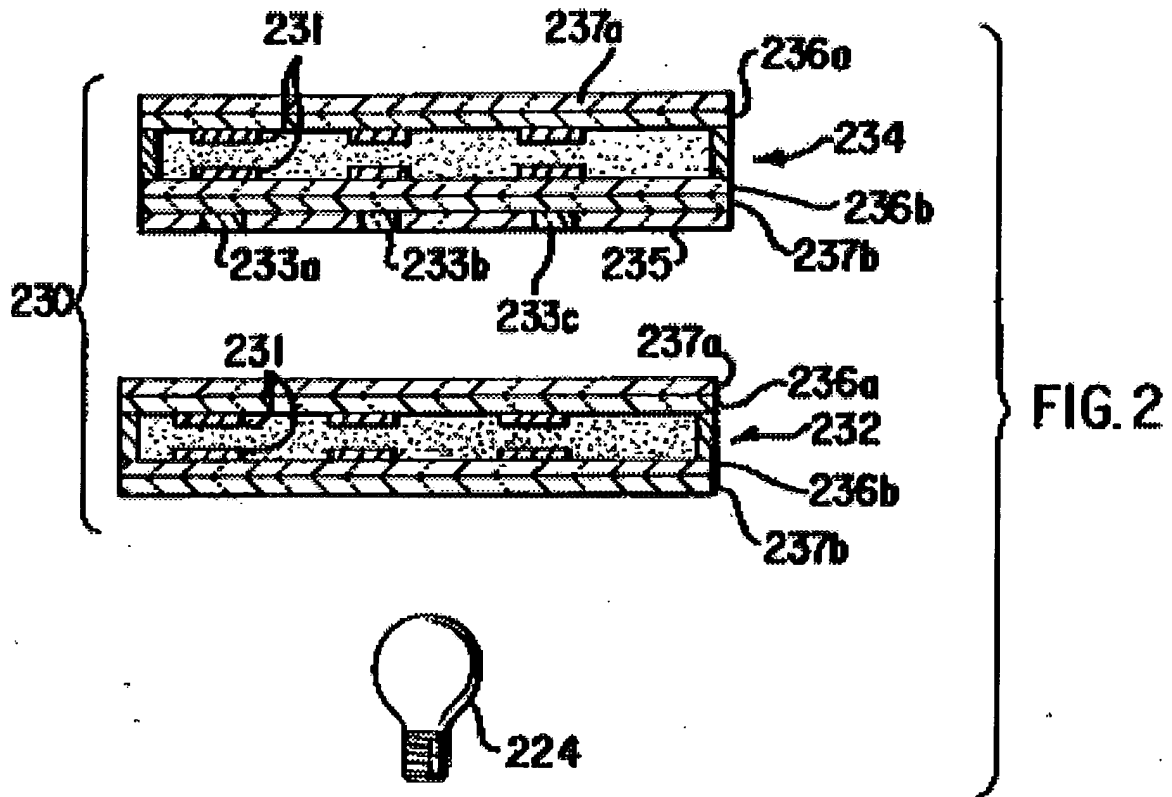
Art Unit: 2871

As to claims 6 and 9-11, Dingwall teaches in Figures 2 and 3 (col. 5, lines 33-40 and col. 7, line 60 through col. 8 line 28), a liquid crystal display (LCD) device, comprising:

an upper polarizer, 237a; on an upper substrate, 236a;

a lower substrate, 236b, on a lower polarizer, 237b, (Applicant's redundant lower substrate); a liquid crystal layer disposed between the upper substrate and the lower substrate; and a backlight device, 224, disposed opposite the lower polarizer for emitting light toward the lower polarizer (Figure 4);

wherein the lower polarizer includes at least one opaque surround or black mask, 235, (Applicant's light shielding film), formed in a rectangular shape along the peripheral portion of the lower polarizer (235 shaped to run along all four sides of the rectangular lower polarizer as illustrated in Figure 3) wherein the black mask absorbs light (col. 8, lines 29-33, and col. 13, lines 25 and 26).



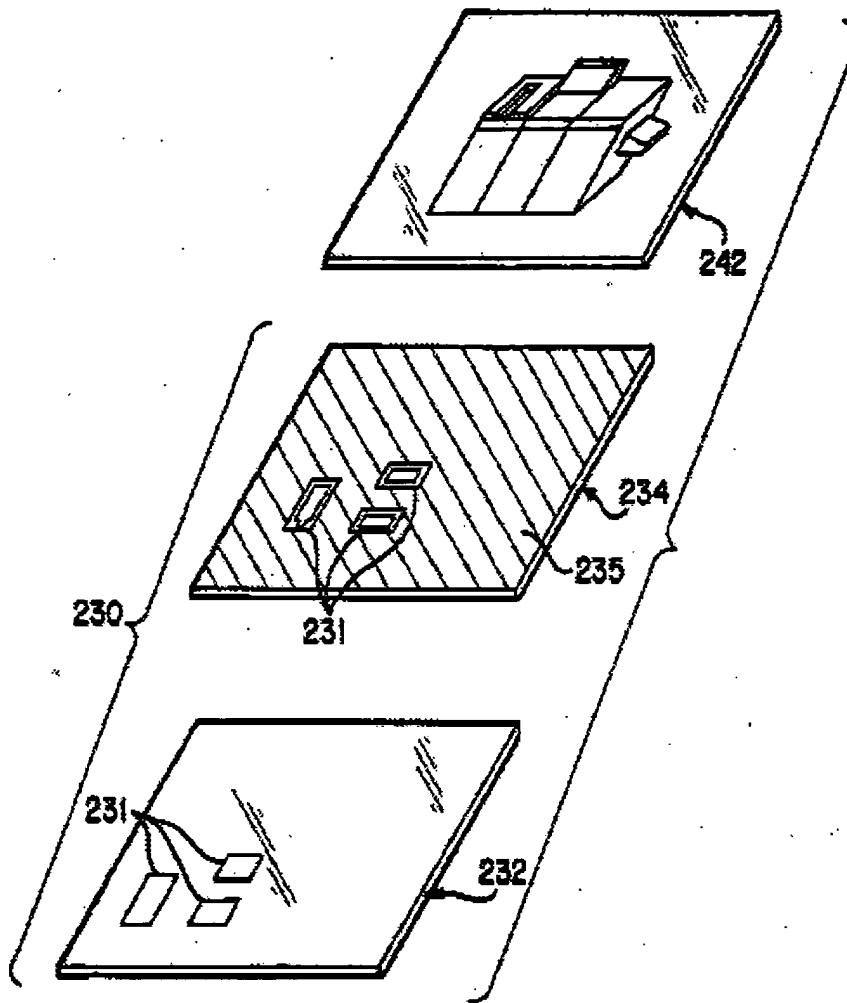


FIG. 3

As to claims 7 and 8, Dingwall teaches (col. 8, lines 11-28) a liquid crystal display (LCD) device of claim 1, wherein the at least one opaque surround or black mask, 235, (Applicant's light shielding film) is formed by a photographic process, by offset lithography (Applicant's coating), or by screen printing (Applicant's printed material) black mask materials that absorb the light (col. 8, lines 29-33, and col. 13, lines 25 and 26).

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed on 01 August 2002 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant's ONLY arguments are as follows:

(1) Claim 6 is allowable at least for the reason that claim 6 recites a combination of elements including wherein the lower polarizer includes a light shielding film formed in a rectangular shape along a peripheral portion of the lower polarizer.

(2) Dingwall teaches a light shielding film that is formed in regions other than the rectangular peripheral region.

Examiner's responses to Applicant's ONLY arguments are as follows:

(1) It is respectfully pointed out that Dingwall discloses a combination of elements including wherein the lower polarizer, 237b, includes a light shielding film, 235, formed in a rectangular shape along a peripheral portion of the lower polarizer, 237b, per rejection above.

(2) It is respectfully pointed out that Applicant's claims are in comprising format, so Dingwall may teach the use a light shielding film that is formed in regions other than the rectangular peripheral region. Please note: In considering the disclosure of a reference, it is proper to take into account not only the specific teachings of the reference but also the inferences which one skilled in the art would reasonably be expected to draw therefrom (MPEP 2144.01). Examiner maintains Dingwall reads on the claims as currently amended and broadly read, and based upon Applicant's

Specification, Examiner presently considers Dingwall to likely render more narrow claims obvious to those having ordinary skill in the art of liquid crystals at the time the claimed invention was made.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Timothy L Rude whose telephone number is (703) 305-0418. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert H Kim can be reached on (703) 305-3492. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9318 for regular communications and (703) 872-9319 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4900.

Timothy L Rude
Examiner
Art Unit 2871

TLR
April 29, 2003


TOANTON
PRIMARY EXAMINER